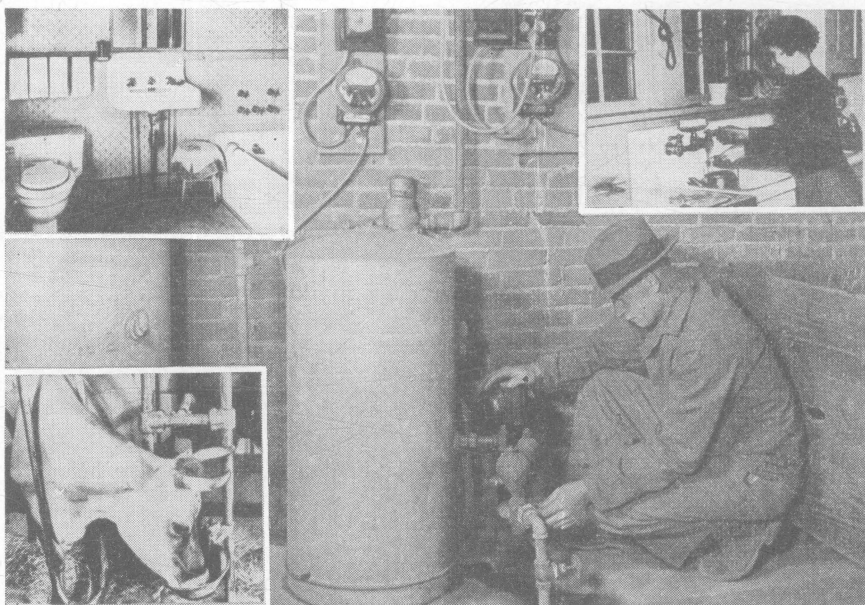




LABOR SAVING

for

FARM AND HOME



No other piece of equipment on the average Ohio farm saves as much labor for the farmer and the housewife at so small a cost as does the automatic water plant.

Compiled by the
Emergency Farm Labor Office

INTRODUCTION

Farming is a family project. In no other industry does every member of the family have so close contact with the actual operation of the business as in agriculture. All have a part in its success or failure.

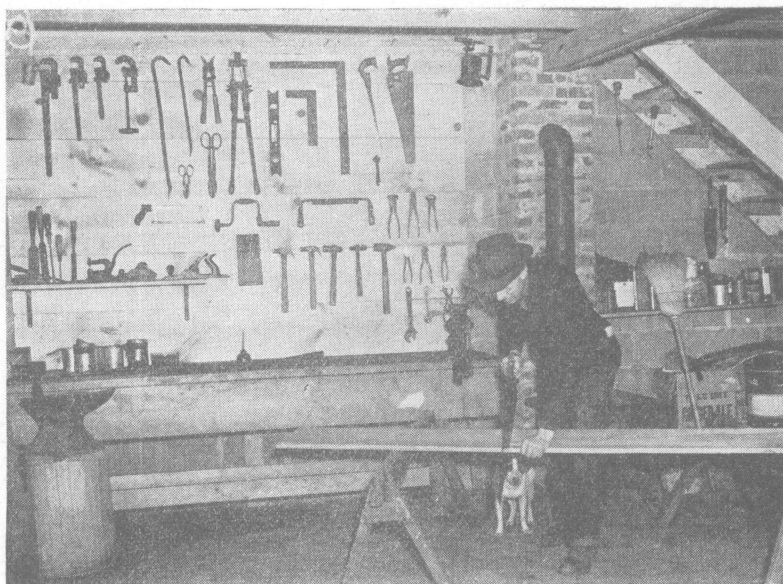
Often, from economic reasons, it is necessary to spend money on the farm before it is spent for the home. It is used for the development and protection of the soil, for barns and outbuildings, for conveniences to save labor and time for the farmer and his helpers, leaving the home more or less neglected. However, the two, the farm and the home, should develop and progress side by side. It is important to consider the welfare of the family and provide conveniences and labor-savers that will free the women and children from drudgery and unnecessary toil.

At best, farming and home making require the expenditure of much human energy. But, through the years, man has learned of ways to save energy and speed up work. He has devised many and varied labor-saving contrivances and methods, for both farm and home, many of which are never made public.

On the following pages are illustrated some of these labor-saving devices. Many of them may be made at home. Others may be purchased. These pictures tell only a small part of the story. Hundreds of other labor-savers, from small gadgets to large and intricate machines, might have been included, were space available.

It is hoped the examples presented here will serve to give the reader helpful suggestions and encourage him to work out plans and equipment of his own that will aid in making the job on the farm and in the home easier and more quickly done.

Bulletins, plans, and information relating to specific problems may be obtained from county Extension agents.

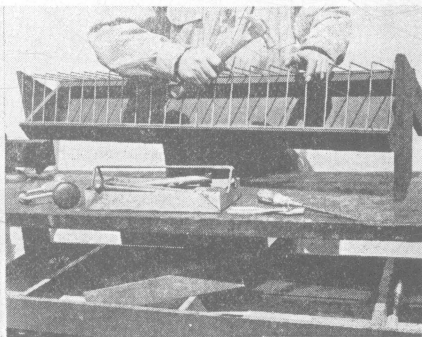
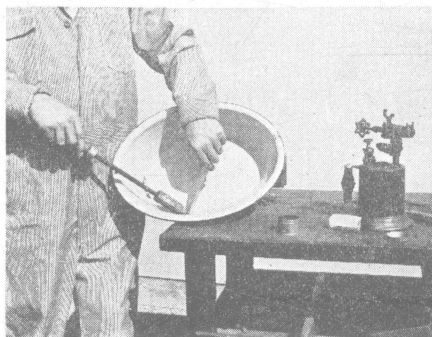


A FARM SHOP SAVES TIME AND MONEY

A well-equipped work shop is needed on every farm. The farmer, handy with tools, can make repairs on his machinery and build many pieces of labor-saving equipment for use on his farm and in his home cheaper than he can purchase them. Machinery kept in repair lasts longer and gives better service. Spare time on bad days can be used to good advantage in the farm shop.

With the necessary tools and a place to work, there are hundreds of jobs, large and small, that can be done at home, saving trips to town. Needed repairs can be made (as illustrated below) and equipment constructed that will save labor, time, and money.

A helpful, illustrated bulletin on farm workshops may be obtained at county Extension offices.

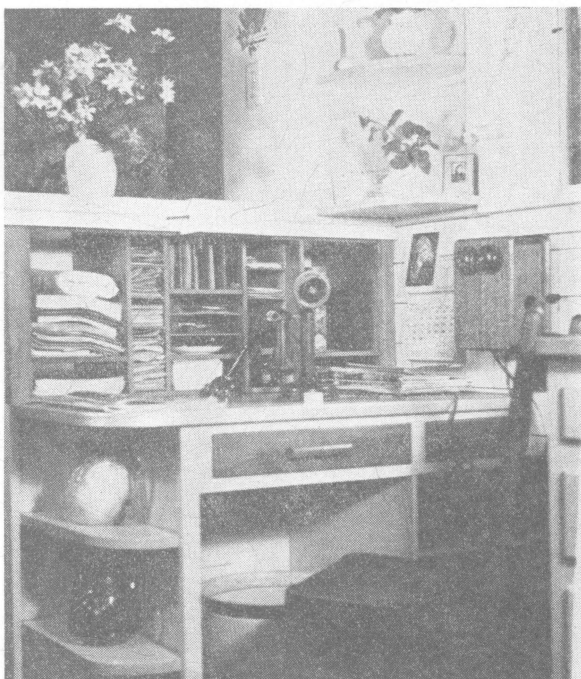




Above.—A convenient way to store bolts, nails, and other small objects in the farm shop. Lids of mason jars are nailed to the joist and the jars containing the objects are screwed into them.

Below.—A home-made device for straightening bale ties.

A desk conveniently located has been found by many housewives to be advantageous. It provides a place where farm and home records may be kept and it makes for neatness and attractiveness.



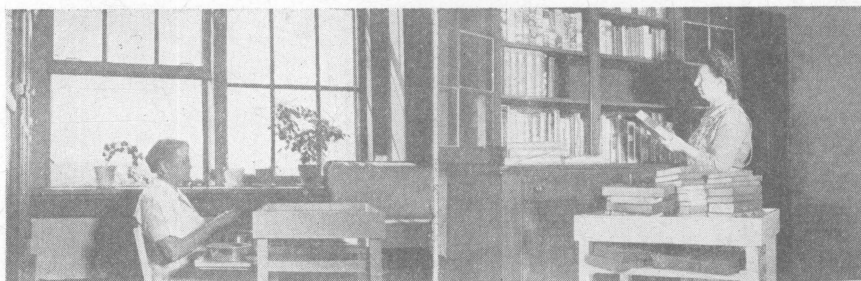
Adequate space for brooms, cleaning equipment, and occasionally used articles means a saving of much time and many steps in the home. Utilizing the space by shelves increases the storage space materially.





Many cupboards and cabinets have shelves so widely spaced it is necessary to stack dishes or cooking utensils on each other making it difficult to get to those at the bottom. By using extra shelves, spaced to suit, many housewives have been able to make their storage space more convenient and usable. These new shelves may be movable and of a size to accommodate the articles to be stored. Many cupboards can be made to hold twice as many dishes or cooking utensils as they do now by making better use of space. More work is done in less time by keeping everything within easy reach.





A sturdy easy-to-move table can help save a lot of work around the house. It may be especially made or a table on hand can have four teacart or swivel wheels attached to the legs. A pull-out lapboard about one inch above the worker's lap when seated is convenient as a place to work sitting down. A chair of convenient height should go with the table. Some uses for this table are shown above.



Above.—Left: A large size ironing board that may be laid on a card table or clamped on top of an ordinary ironing board will save time and energy for most of the ironing. Right: A scrubbing chariot, on which the worker kneels, saves labor in scrubbing, waxing or finishing floors.

Below.—An electric mixer will save much labor for the average housewife. It will eliminate that ache in the arm which comes from continued stirring and beating.





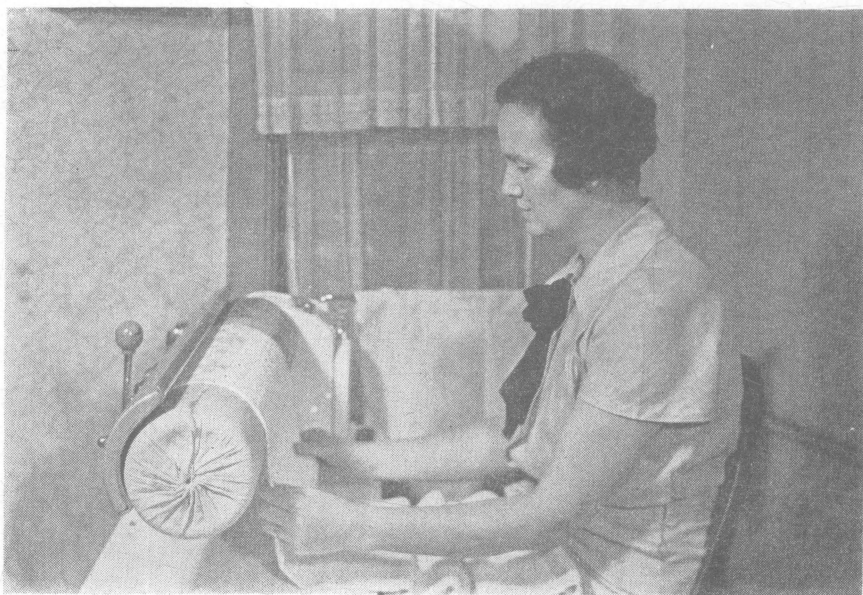
Above.—The vacuum cleaner is a real home labor-saver. It can be used not only for sweeping rugs but for cleaning drapes, hangings, upholstered furniture, books, etc.

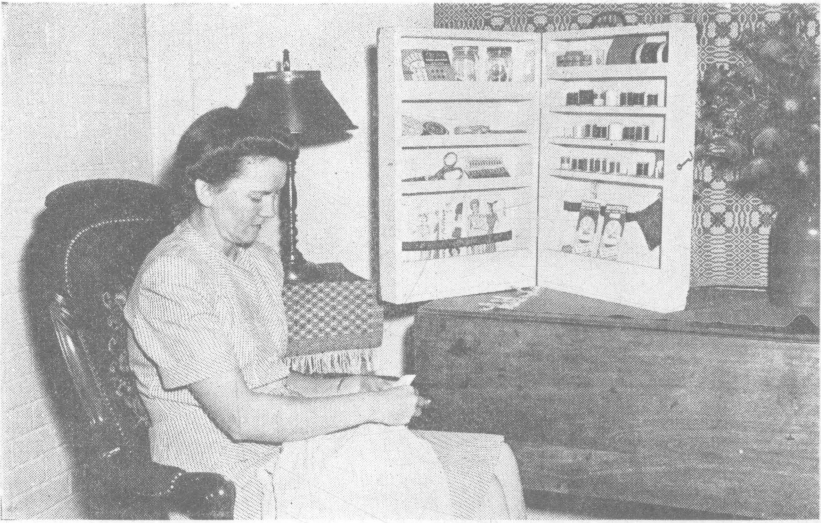
Below.—Probably there is no other piece of equipment on the farm that saves as much labor for the housewife as does the automatic water system. Hand pumping and carrying water are back-tiring jobs.





Washing and ironing are two of the tasks that consume much time and require much labor for the housewife. The washing machine and electric ironer can take much of the drudgery out of these two tasks.





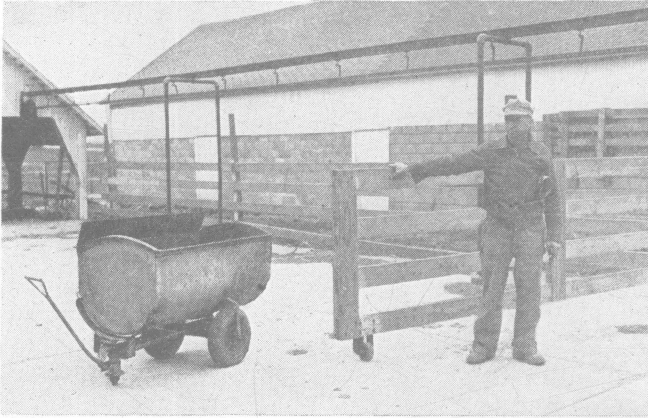
A portable sewing cabinet will hold all sewing material for everyday use. It may be set beside the homemaker's chair or on a table when in use and behind a door or in a closet when not in use. Good lighting saves eyesight and nervous energy when doing close work or reading.



A simple, bookcase-like unit on casters for toys is a labor-saver. Habits of order may well begin with training children to put toys away on convenient easy-to-reach shelves.



Mechanical devices are especially desirable with heavy lifting. This milk can lifter, quickly and easily attached, eliminates one of the most strenuous dairy tasks.

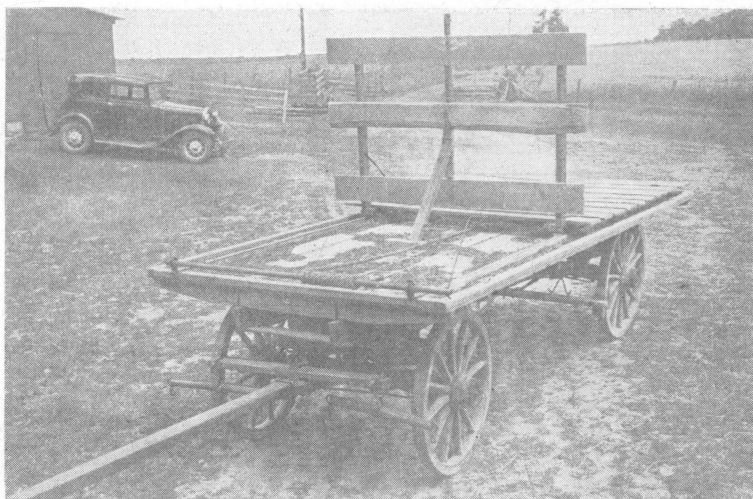


Above.—Feed cart, mounted on rubber tires, is easy to pull where wanted. Also, a wide gate supported by rubber-tired wheels prevents sagging and makes opening and closing easy.

Right.—Grain cart filled from an overhead bin by simply pulling a lever.

Below.—A slop barrel on wheels is handy about the hog lots.





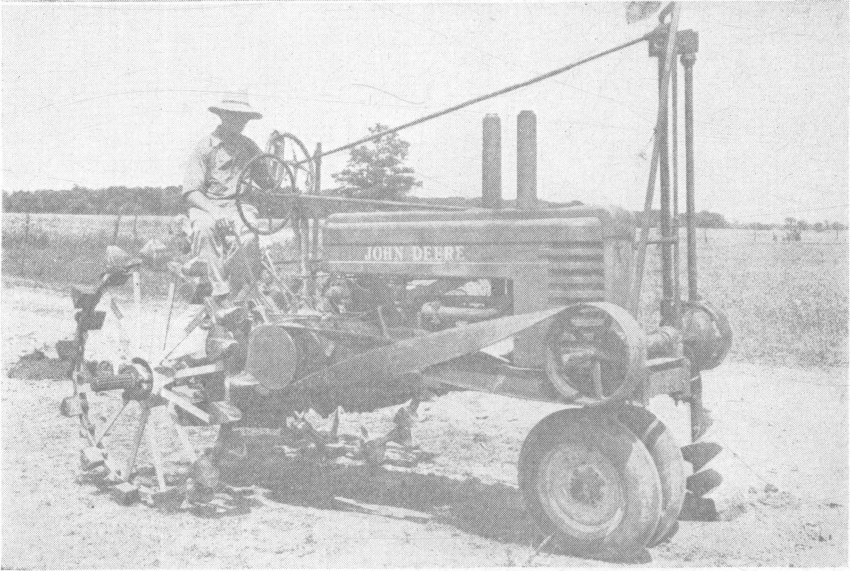
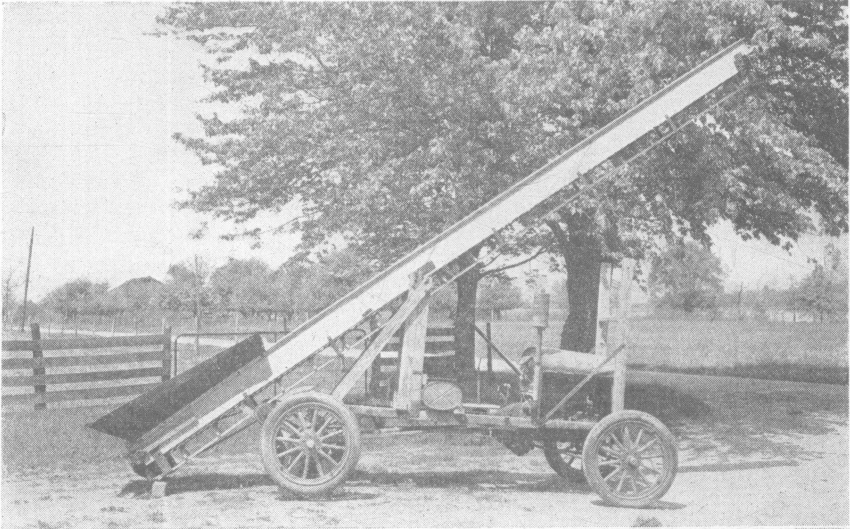
Above.—A movable rack on a regular hay ladders permits the wagon to be loaded in two parts. When one part is loaded, the rack is moved forward and the second part is loaded.



Left.—Ear corn elevator with a drag.

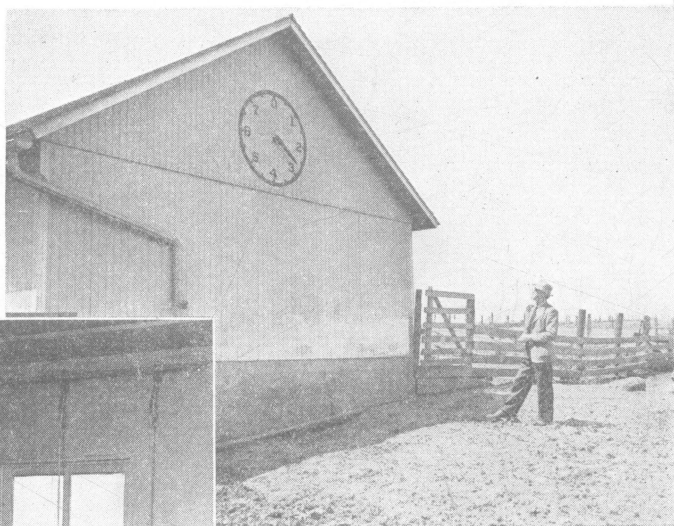
Below.—Rear part of an old threshing machine used to blow long hay into the mow. The hay is brought to the barn with a buck rake.



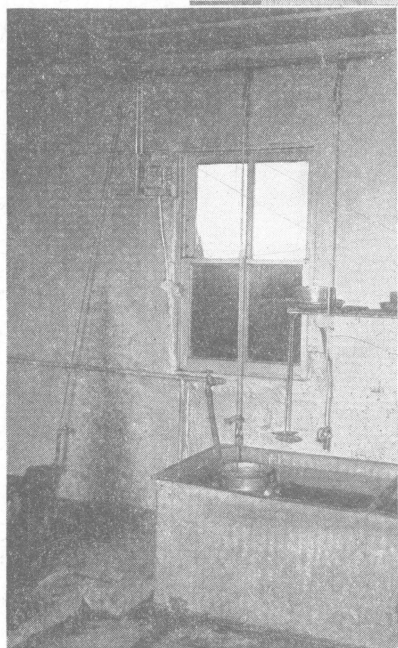


Above.—An ear corn elevator mounted on an old car chassis. It is operated by jacking up the rear wheels and running the motor.

Below.—Home-made post hole auger made from an old truck and mounted on a tractor.



Above.—Gauge on the barn indicates the amount of water in the tank.

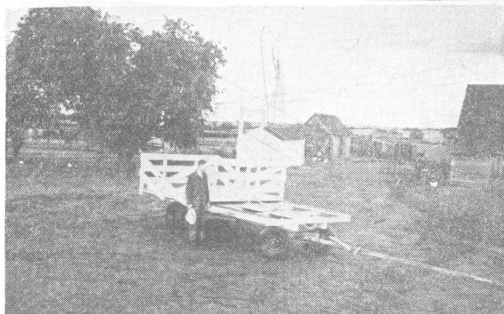
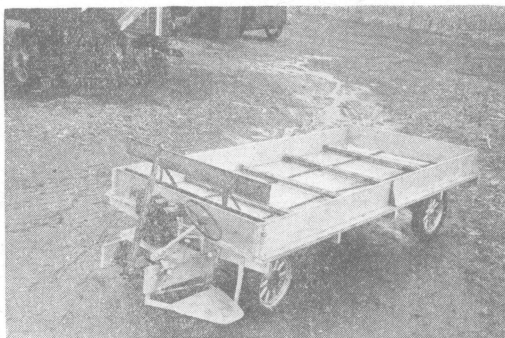


Left.—Arrangement for stirring milk in the cans while in the cooling tank. May be operated by motor or from windmill.

Below.—An automatic float controlled drinking fountain for poultry.

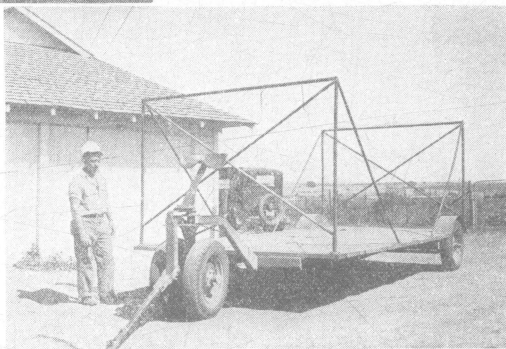


Self-powered, self-unloading wagon. Gas engine out front sends power through transmission to drive rear wheels of wagon. Power take-off from transmission drives another shaft which winds apron up on shaft at rear. Apron on floor and headboard at front pull the load off at rear and into elevator to crib.

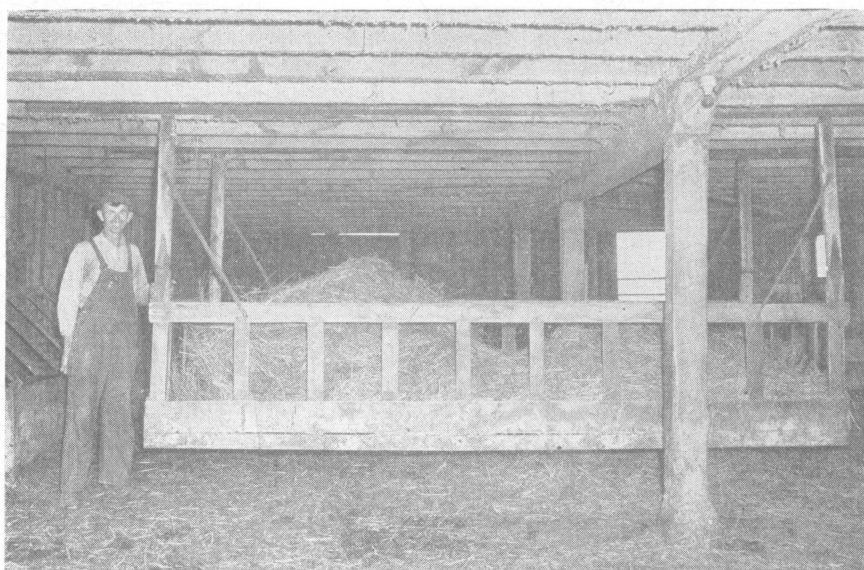


Telescoping wagon bed rack. Front section slides back on top of rear. When front section is loaded, it is pulled forward into place to load rear section. This is a variation of rack shown on page 14.

Low-slung, quick-turn wagon. Bed is 20 inches from the ground. Front steering gear allows very sharp turns.

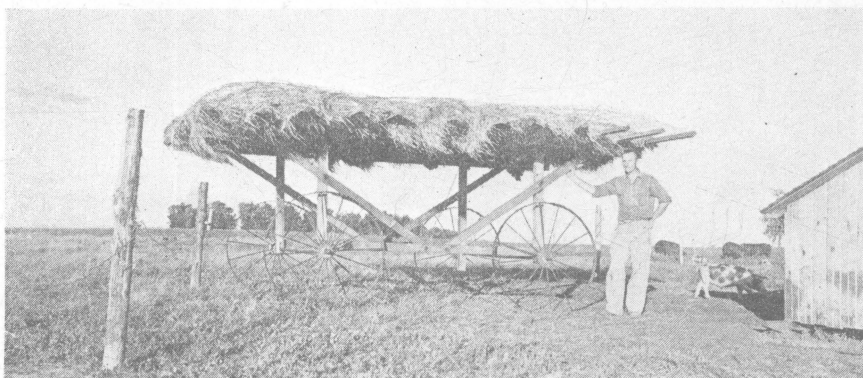


Tractor with platform for hauling fruit from orchard and for other hauling. Easier to make short turns in the orchard than with a trailer.



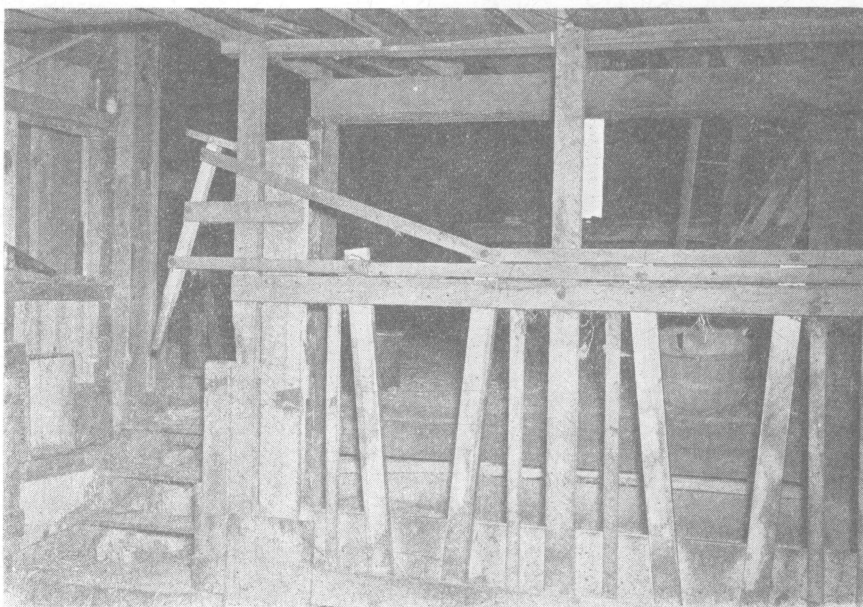
Above.—Moveable rack for feeding hay. Can be moved under hay chute, filled, and then shoved where wanted in the covered barnyard. It is hinged so it will swing when pushed by the cattle.

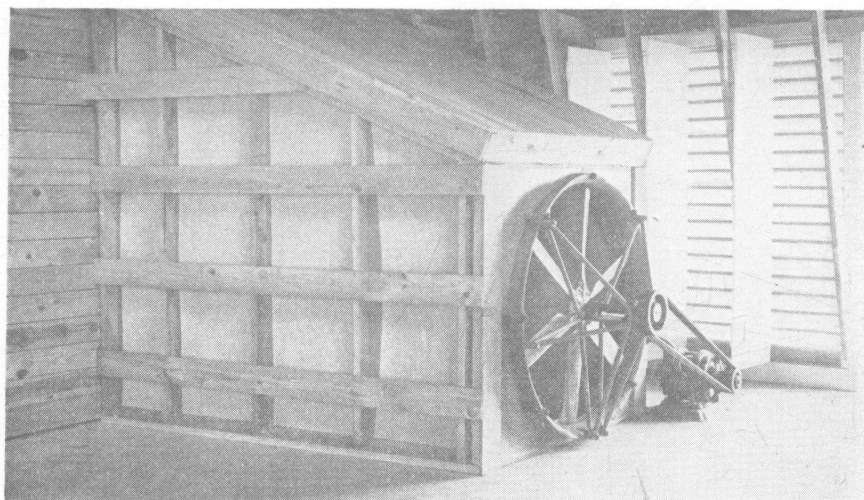
Below.—Feed storage on the second floor of a two-story laying house. The feed is accessible on the second floor as well as the first floor.



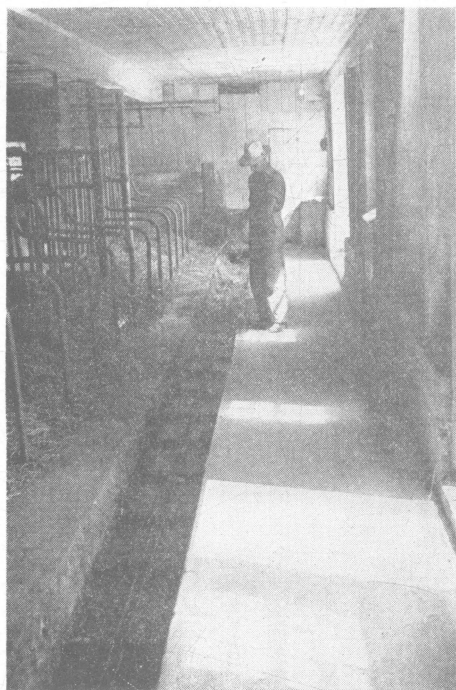
Above.—Straw shed built on wheels so it can be moved about in the pasture where wanted.

Below.—Home-made cattle stanchions connected with a lever that will open or close them at one operation.



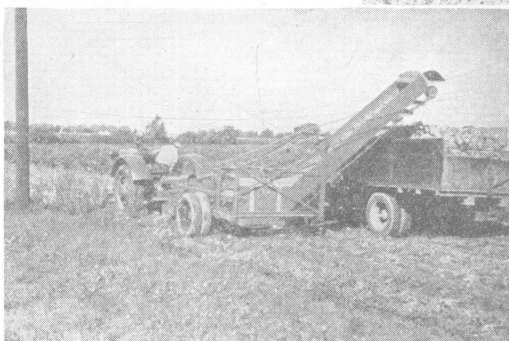
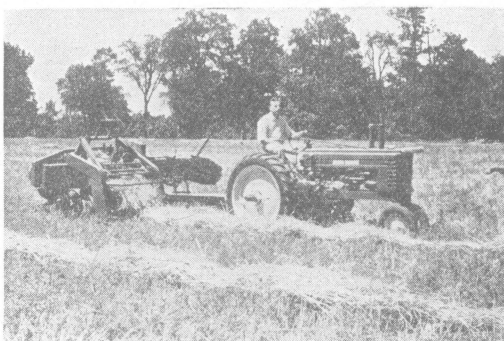


Propeller-type fan for artificially drying hay in the mow. The air is blown through ducts placed on the mow floor.



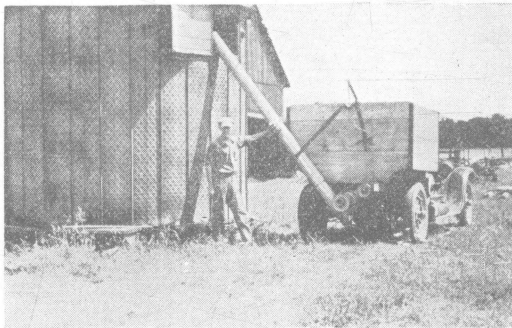
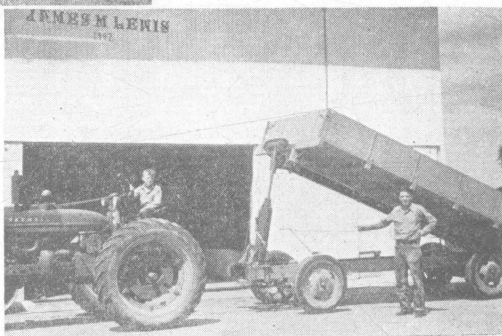
Power-driven stable or gutter cleaner. An endless conveyor is pulled through the gutter carrying out the manure and loading it on the spreader. A real labor saver.

A one-man pick-up baler.



A sugar beet loader.

Rubber tired wagon with hydraulic lift for dumping.

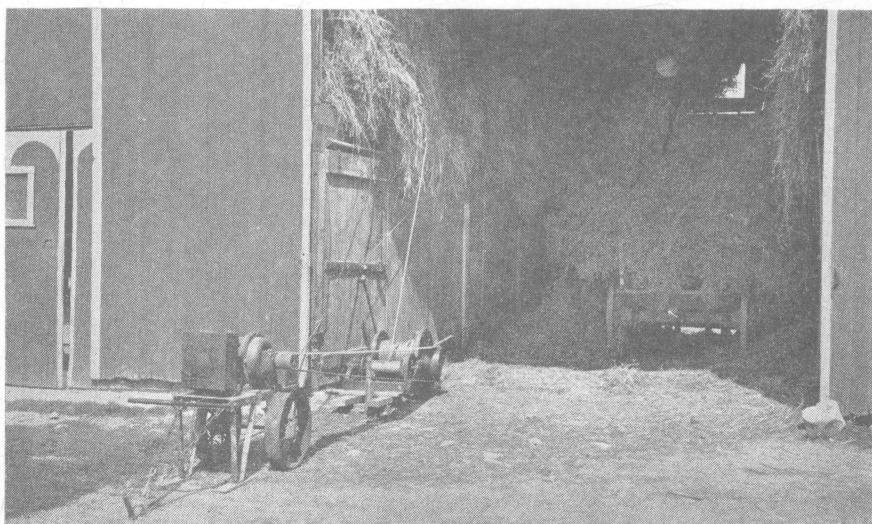


Portable grain bin with auger-type elevator, powered by the truck motor.



Above.—A home-made buck rake, mounted on a truck or tractor for carrying hay or straw from field to barn or stack is a labor saver. County agents can furnish plans for making buckrakes.

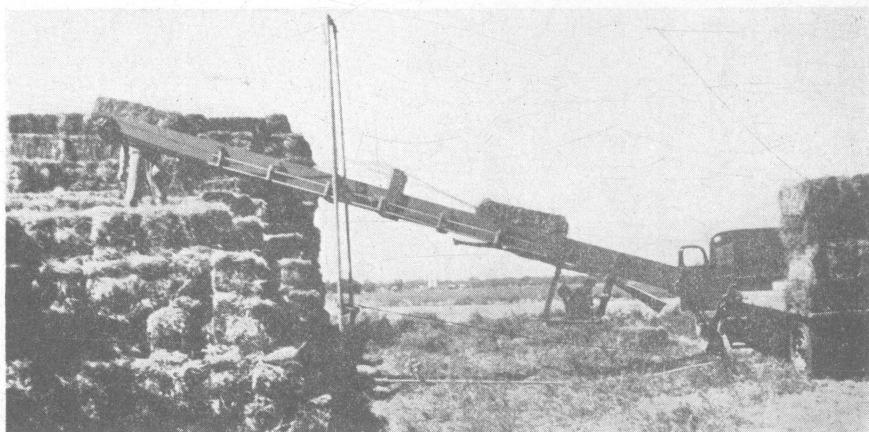
Below.—An electrically operated hay hoist, controlled from the wagon, eliminates extra help in unloading. The portable motor is easily moved from one job to another.

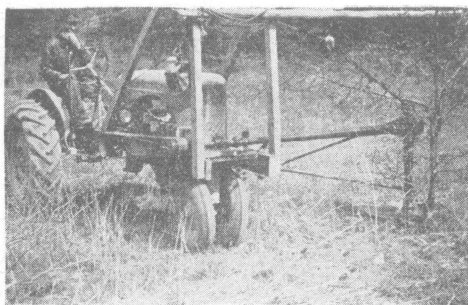




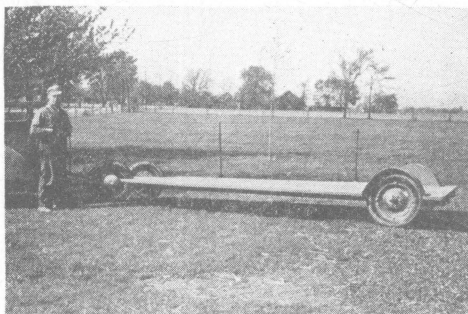
Above.—This home-made bale loader picks up bales in the hay field and elevates them onto a truck or other vehicle. Two men can load bales rapidly, one driving the truck and the other removing the bales from the platform.

Below.—When baled hay is to be stacked or placed in the mow, this elevating device works satisfactorily. Loading from the truck bed requires little lifting.

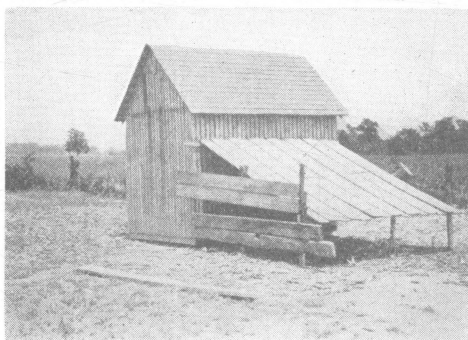




A home-made brush saw mounted on a tractor and run from a belt pulley.



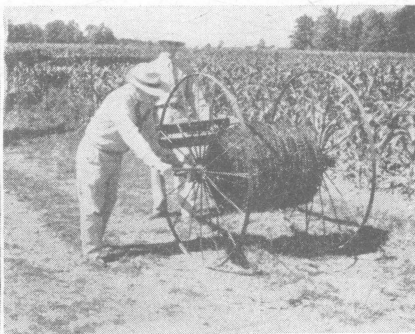
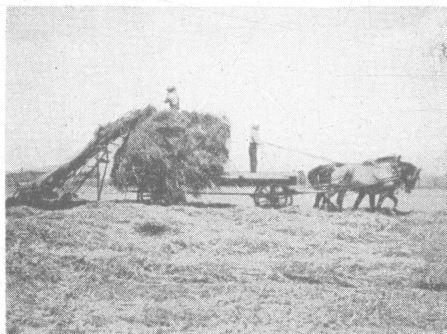
Low-down trailer for transporting machinery, hay, etc.



Portable corn crib, with a lean-to shelter, used as a self-feeder for hogs.

Left, below.—Moveable hay rack, shown on page 14, in operation.

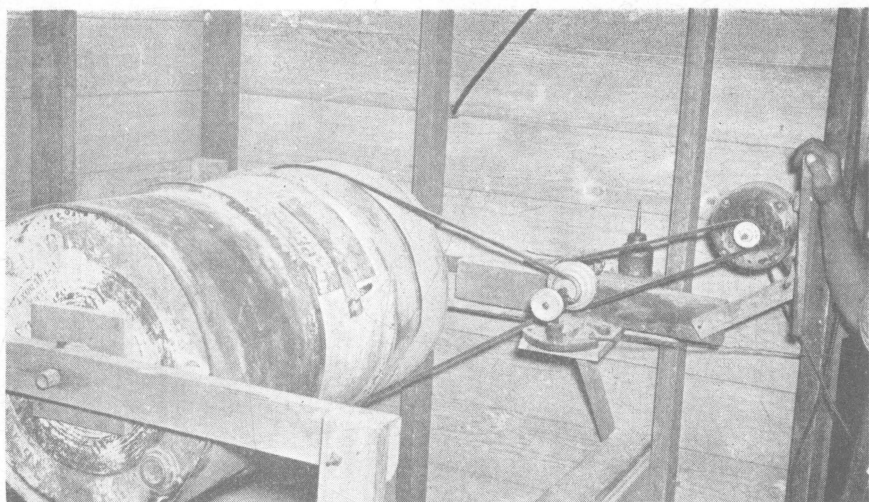
Right, below.—Reel for winding or unwinding barb wire.



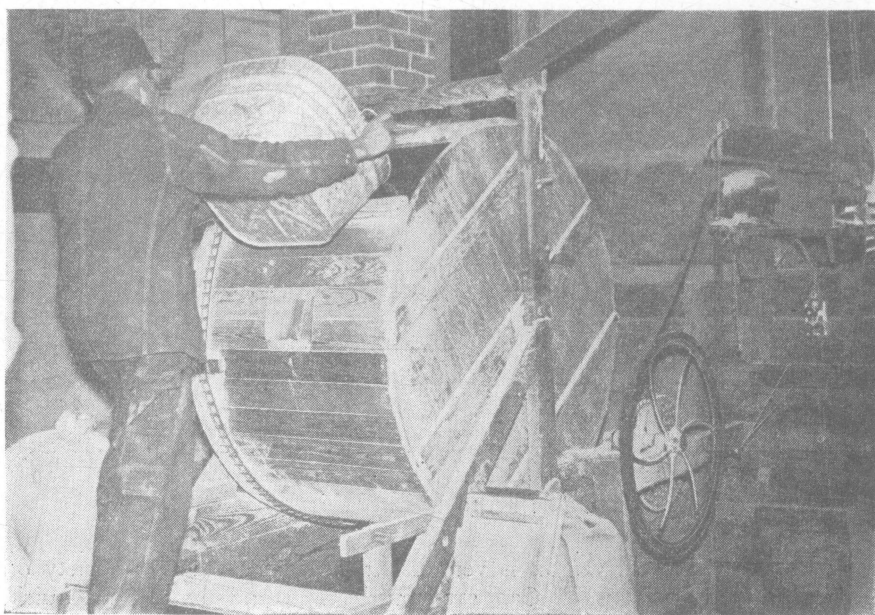


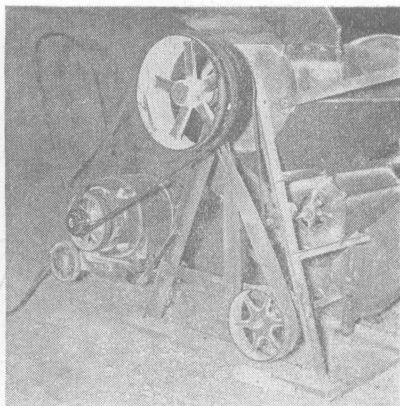
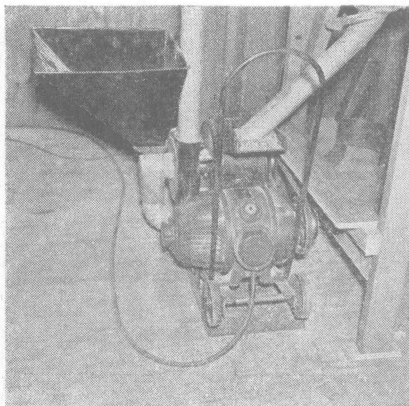
Above.—A potato digger, sorter, and loader. Potatoes, as they are dug, are elevated to a moveable platform from which attendants pick out stones and clods and the potatoes fall into trailer behind.

Below.—A service wagon is very useful on farms where a variety of power equipment is used. Can save much time and expense in quick servicing.



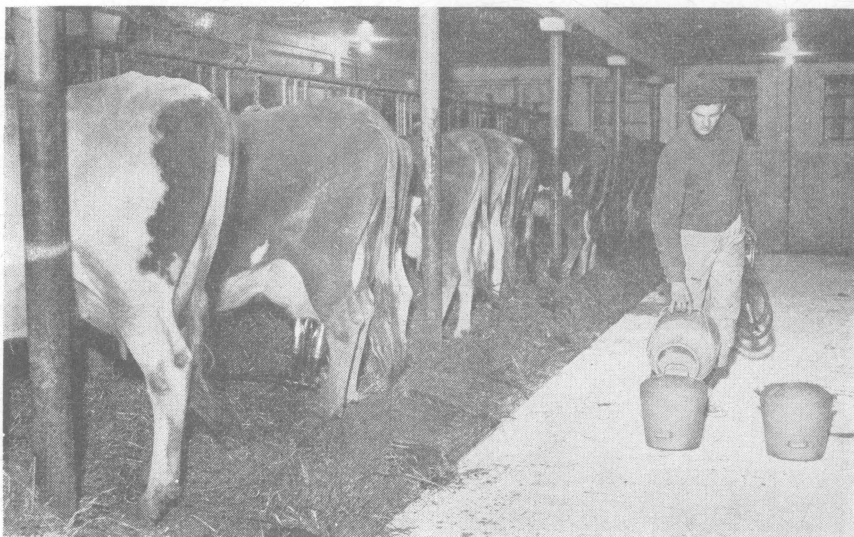
When it is desirable to mix feeds for live stock or poultry, home-made mixers, such as shown on this page are useful. These mixers can be operated by small motors and the speed is obtained by the size of pulleys. In the picture below the parts of an old corn sheller are used for speed reduction.

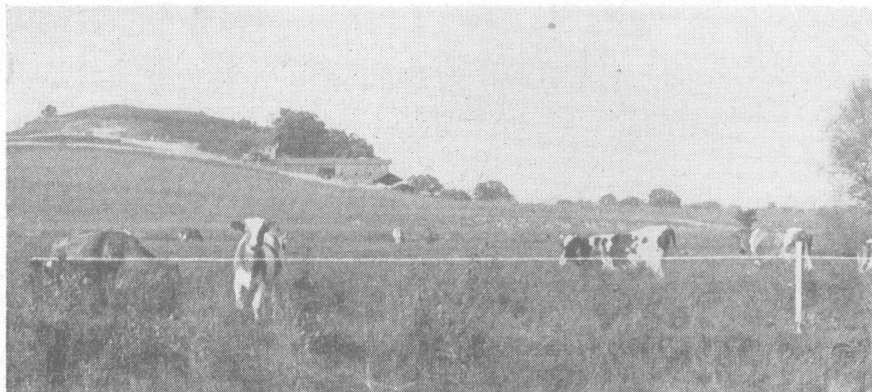




Above.—By placing the electric motor on a home-made truck it can be moved easily from one machine to another. This increases its usefulness as a labor saver.

Below.—Milking machines save both labor and time, since milking is one of the hardest and most time-consuming tasks connected with dairying. A milking machine cuts the labor in half.

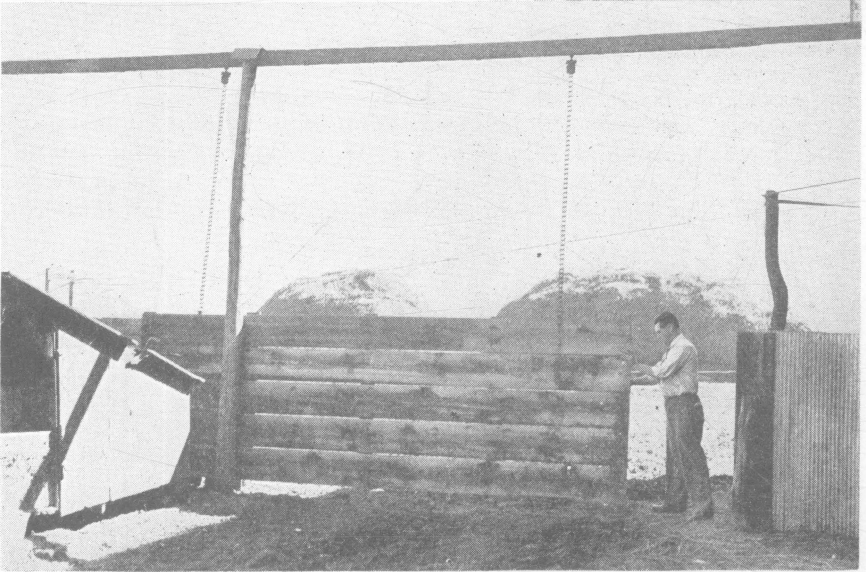




Above.—An electric fence is a labor-saving device that has its greatest usefulness where livestock raising is a part of the farming program. It is easily and quickly constructed, yet, is effective for turning larger animals.

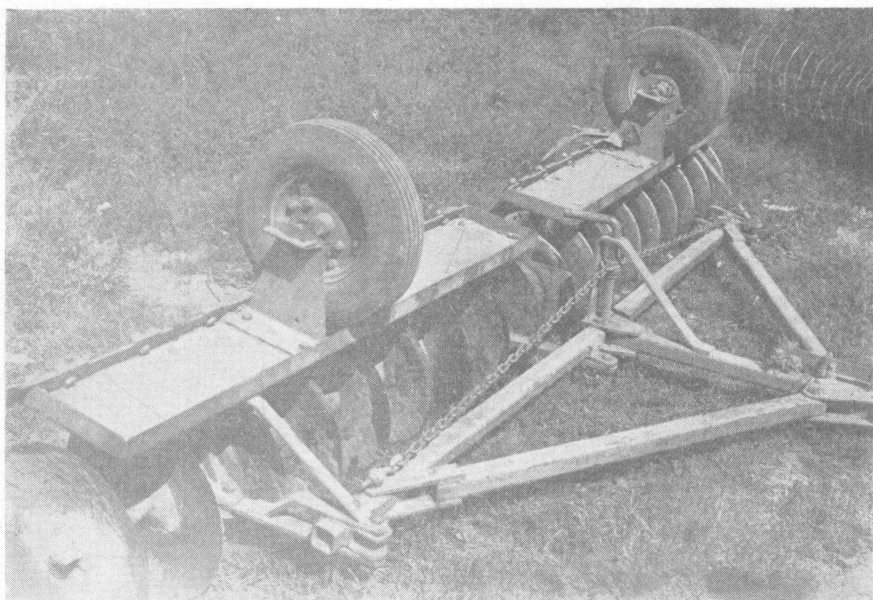
Below.—A series of gates so arranged they can be combined to shunt livestock into any field desired. Note that the gates are double and are located where several fields corner.



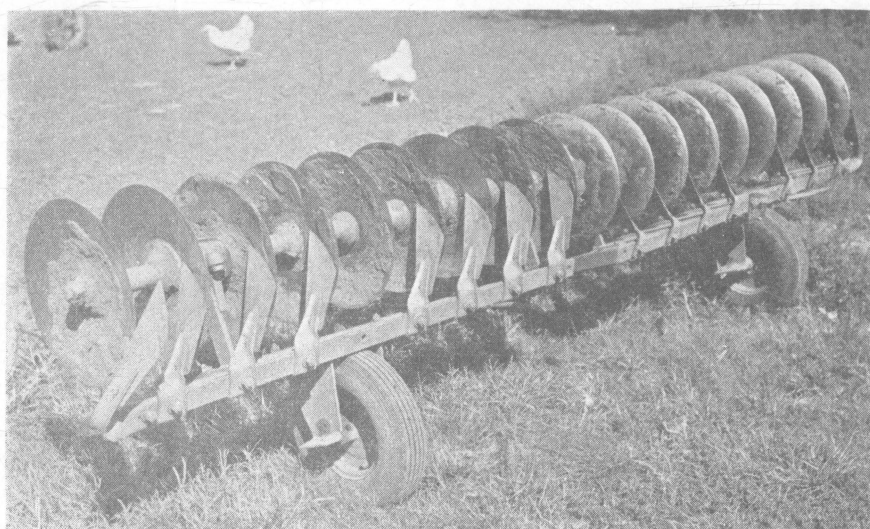


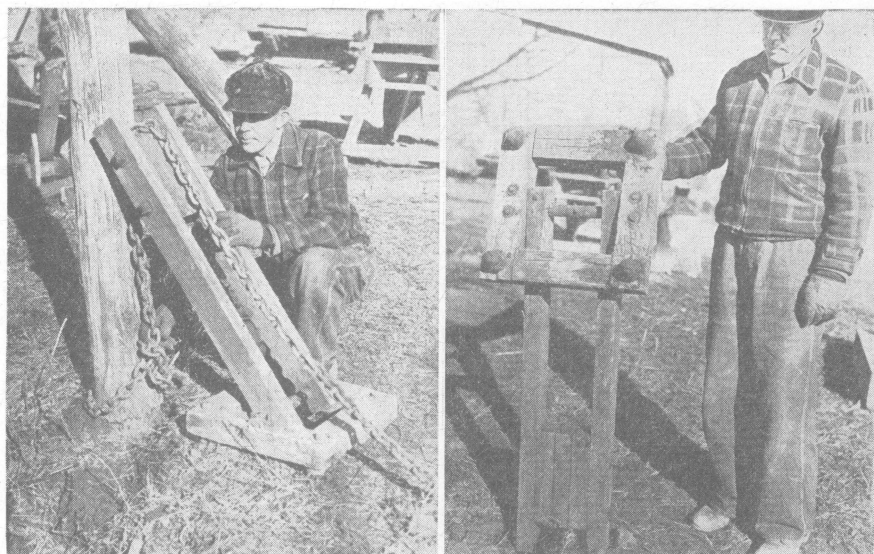
Above.—A sliding gate that can be used to fit openings of various widths.

Below.—A swinging gate. When it is to be opened it is swung to one side, or it can be lifted to permit hogs or small animals to go under it but keep cattle or horses from going through.



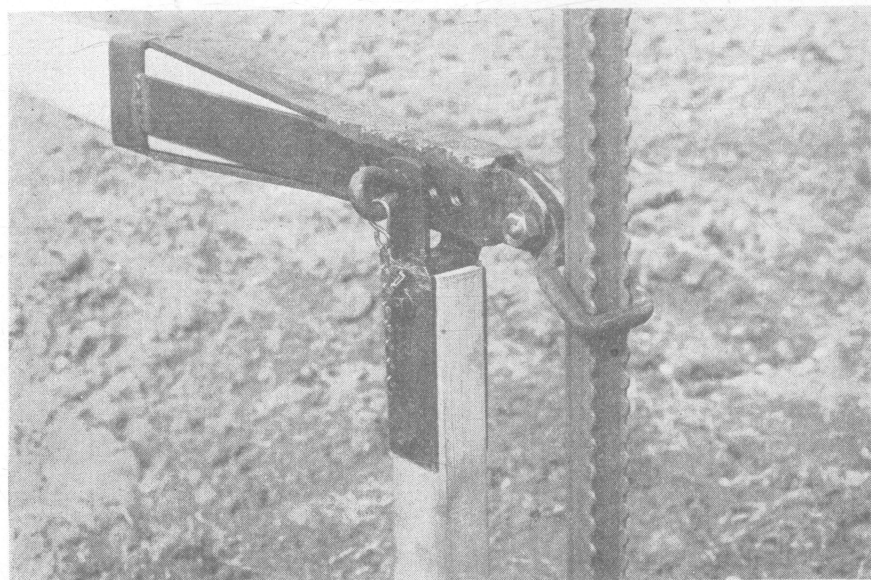
These pictures show how an ingenious farmer attached transport wheels to the frame of his field disk so it can be moved easily from barn to field and back. A flip of the disk tongue and the disks are on top and the wheels on the bottom, allowing the farmer to take the disk anywhere his tractor will go.

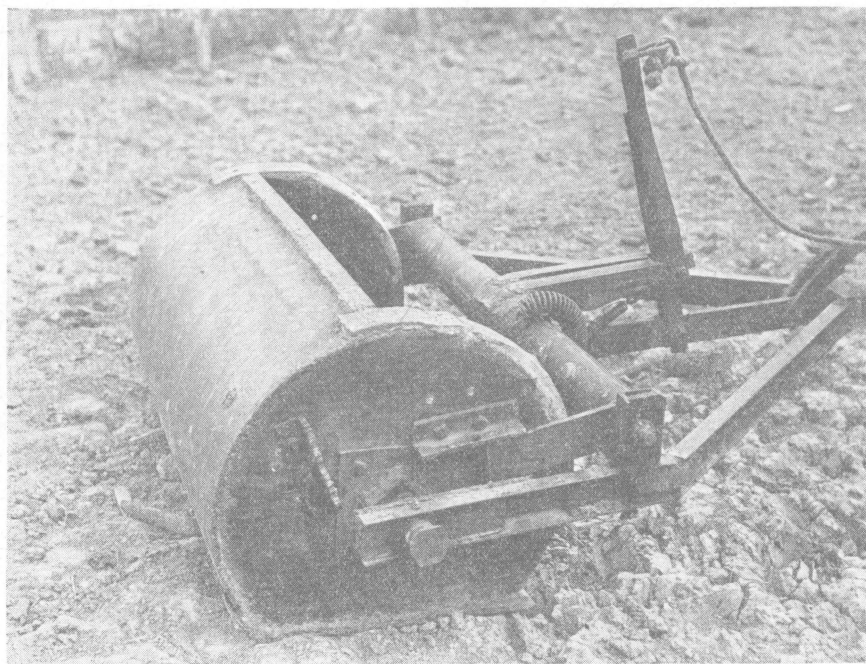




Above.—A home-made post puller. It is strongly constructed of good-sized lumber and is fastened together with large bolts. The manner of attaching the puller to the post is shown at the left and at the right the construction of the device is shown.

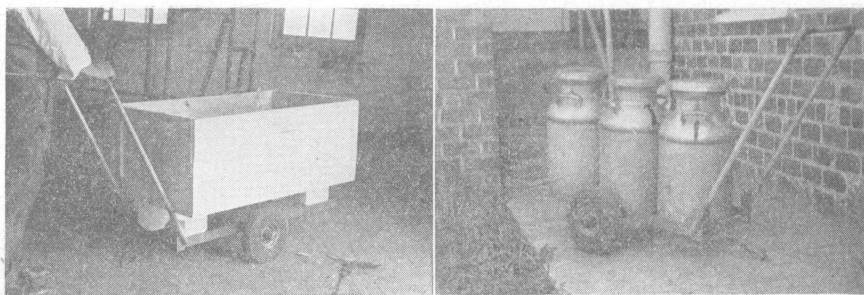
Below.—Where steel posts are to be pulled this device will work satisfactorily. It is made adjustable to give more or less leverage as needed.





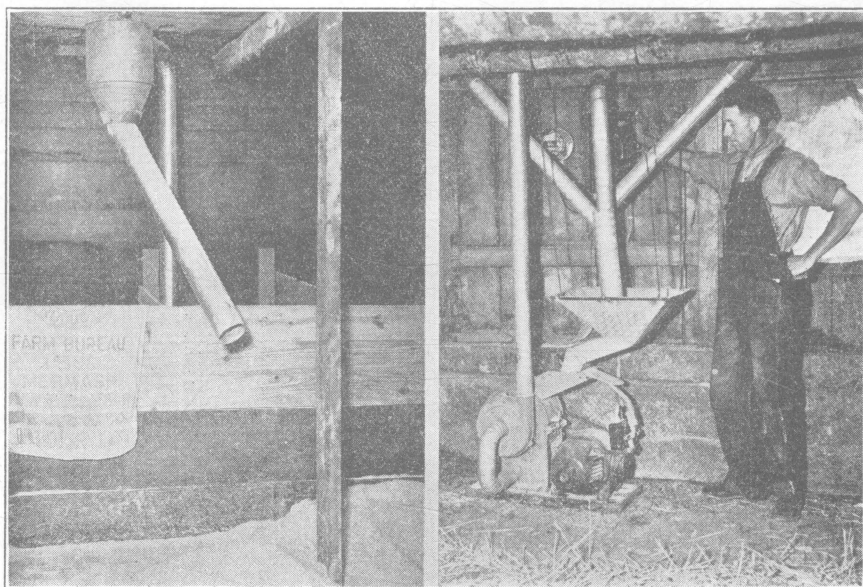
The "tumble-bug" is a home-made scraper practical for road work, levelling farm land, making dams, and other farm improvements. The loading and dumping are controlled by the tractor operator. Scrap material can be used largely in the construction of this scraper.

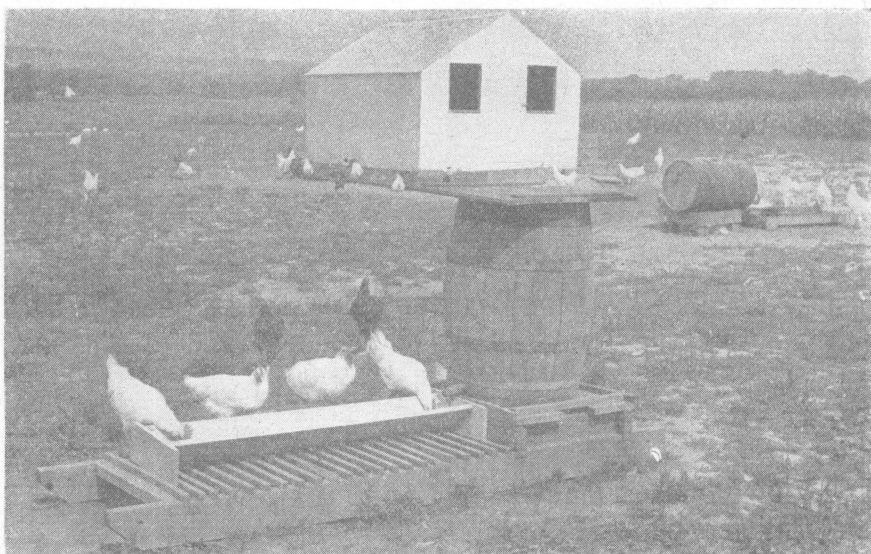




Above.—Home-made feed cart with removable bed. With the bed on, it can be used to transport feed and without the bed it will carry three milk cans. It is made of angle irons, old pipes, and rubber-tired wheels. Handy around the barn.

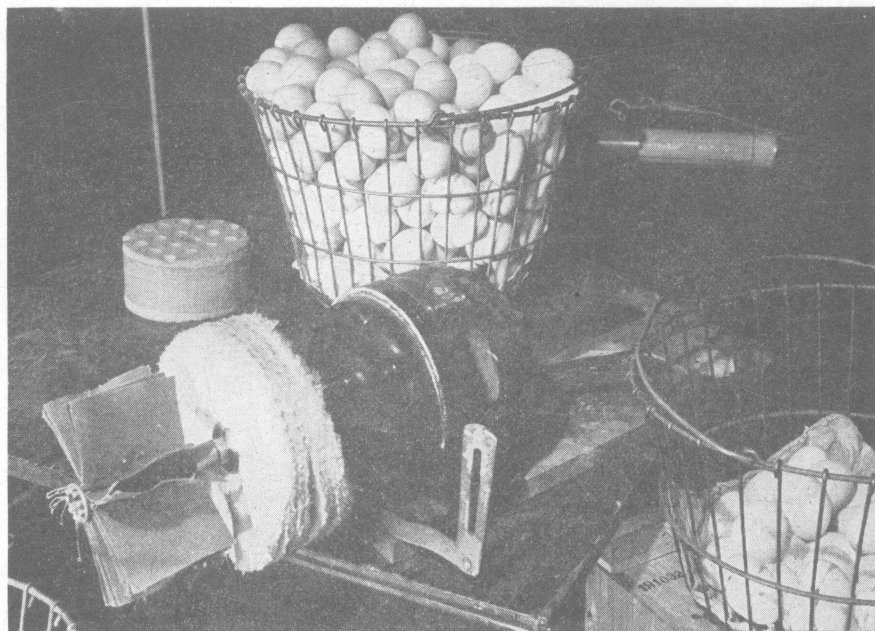
Below.—With a set-up of this type, freshly ground feed may be had daily with a minimum of labor and at low cost.





Above.—Barrel waterers for poultry on range will save many steps for the poultry raiser.

Below.—An egg cleaner operated by a small electric motor. This device is useful where eggs are produced on a large scale for market.



Arrangement for saving work for the poultryman in the handling of feed. The feed dealer drives his truck up to the house and dumps the feed into an inside bin through the opening shown. The feed is then taken out on the inside below as needed. Eliminates much heavy lifting.



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* Bulletins or plans available from county Extension agents.

The illustration at the bottom of page 5 and those on pages 12, 23, 30, 31, and 32 are used through the courtesy of the Extension Service of the Kansas State College, Manhattan, Kansas.